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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants : Günter HALMSCHLAGER et al.)

Art unit: 3651)

Appln. No. : 09/482,263)

Examiner: Unknown)

Filed : January 13, 2000)

For : BELT FOR MACHINES FOR PRODUCING MATERIAL WEBS AND
PROCESS OF PRODUCING THE BELT

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

TC 1700

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration during the examination of the instant application:

Applicants submit herewith a copy of the European Search Report (in German) conducted in European Application No. 99 12 3453, which is a counterpart of the instant application. In particular the European Examiner cited:

(1) EP 0 006 316 A, which is cited as an "X" category document (i.e. indicating lack of novelty). In particular, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document is relevant to claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 11-13 and 16-18 of the European Application;

(2) US 4,251,928 is cited in the annex of the search report as a family member

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document of EP 0 006 316;

(3) WO 97/14846 A, which is cited as an "X" category document with respect to the European Application. In particular, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document is relevant to claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 9-13 of the European Application;

(4) US 5,731,059, which is cited as an "A" category document with respect to the European Application. In particular, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document is relevant to claim 8 of the European Application;

(5) US 5,506,033 is cited in the annex of the search report as a family member document of US 5,731,059;

(6) US 3,523,867 A, which is cited as an "A" category document with respect to the European Application. In particular, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document is relevant to claim 8 of the European Application;

(7) DE 29 22 025 A, which is cited as an "A" category document with respect to the European Application. In particular, the European Examiner indicated that the whole document is relevant to claim 8 of the European Application.

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration during the examination of the instant application:

(8) US 5,238,537, which is cited for the convenience of the Examiner.

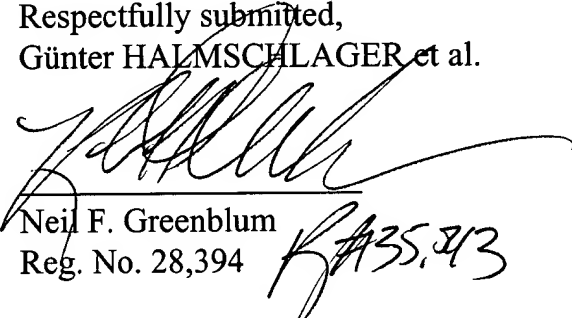
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Copies of the above-listed documents (including the European Search Report) are enclosed as is a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing these documents. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the Merits has not been received in the instant application. However, if an Office Action on the Merits has issued, and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), to Applicants' Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,
Günter HALMSCHLAGER et al.


Neil F. Greenblum
Reg. No. 28,394

April 9, 2001
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